



JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
CAMP H. M. SMITH, HAWAII 96861-5025

CASE 1057-0-01

NARRATIVE

ON 23 FEBRUARY 1968, CAPTAIN GEORGE L. HUBLER WAS FLYING AN
F-8E AIRCRAFT (SERIAL NUMBER 150857) WHICH COLLIDED IN MID-AIR
WITH ANOTHER AIRCRAFT IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES
BT190690, APPROXIMATELY 30 KILOMETERS SOUTHEAST OF DA NANG, QUANG
NAM-DA NANG PROVINCE. SEARCH AND RESCUE FORCES RECOVERED THE
CREW OF THE OTHER AIRCRAFT WHO HAD SUCCESSFULLY PARACHUTED FROM
THEIR AIRCRAFT. THEY WERE UNABLE TO LOCATE CAPTAIN HUBLER.

PERTINENT DATA ARE AS FOLLOWS:

NAME: HUBLER, GEORGE LAWRENCE
RANK: CAPTAIN, U.S. MARINE CORPS
DATE OF BIRTH: 6 SEPTEMBER 1942
RACE: CAUCASIAN
HEIGHT: 1.88 METERS
WEIGHT: 76.1 KILOGRAMS
HAIR: BROWN
EYES: BLUE

21 JUL 1993

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 9 FEBRUARY 1994

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 1062-0-02 (ACCNO 6173) Status: (N) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED
Name: HARTZHEIM, JOHN FRANCIS Date Status assigned: 2 Mar 1968

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	DATA
Service	NAVY	Sex	MALE	Blood type	A -
Grade	E5	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	FAIR
SSAN		Eyes	GREEN	Weapon	#
Serial No	DATA	Height	70 in / 1.78 mtrs	Weapon No	#
Birth date	25 Nov 1945	Weight	170 lb / 77.0 kg	Duty pos	CREWMAN
Home State	WISCONSIN	Religion	CATHOLIC	PW Camp	\$

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: CRASH SITE
UTM: 48QXD116889
Lat/Long: 170459N / 1060256E
Country: LAOS
Military Region: 3
Mission Province: KHAMMOUAN
(formerly):
Mission District: BOULAPHA
Mission Date: 27 Feb 1968
Mission Category: 3
Local Analysis: Near populated area.

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Folders Passed: May 93, Jun 92, Feb 90, Nov 89
Investigations: May 93
Vessey Case: THREE
Case type: DISCREPANCY
Survivability: (4) Probably in the aircraft at the time of the crash

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type: OP2E	Serial: 131484
Crash Type: Enemy action	Engine Type: R3350
Call Sign: SOPHOMORE 50	1 Serial: #
Year: \$	2 Serial: #

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

= Item has been researched but data cannot be obtained.
\$ = Item is not applicable to this case.
@ or Blank = Data for item is unknown or not available.

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 9 FEBRUARY 1994

BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

REFNO: Status: (F) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED
Name: NAME Date Status assigned: 26 Apr 1978

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	DATA
Service		Sex	MALE	Blood type	A +
Grade		Hair	BROWN	Complexion	FAIR
SSAN		Eyes	BLUE	Weapon	#
Serial No	DATA	Height	71 in / 1.80 mtrs	Weapon No	#
Birth date		Weight	188 lb / 85.2 kg	Duty pos	PILOT
Home State		Religion		PW Camp	\$

SITE INFORMATION

	INCIDENT LOCATION (0)	LAST KNOWN LOCATION (1)
Site Type:	CRASH SITE	SECONDARY SITE
UTM:	48QXD116889	48QXD125860
Lat/Long:	170459N / 1060256E	170325N / 1060326E
Country:	LAOS	
Military Region:	3	
Mission Province:	KHAMMOUAN	SAVANNAKHET
(formerly):		VIENTIANE
Mission District:	BOULAPHA	VILIBOURI
Mission Date:	27 Feb 1968	
Mission Category:	3	
Local Analysis:	Near populated area.	

JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY

Folders Passed: May 93, Jun 92, Feb 90, Nov 89
Investigations: May 93
Vessey Case: THREE
Case type: DISCREPANCY
Survivability: (2) Probably out of the aircraft at the time of the crash

VEHICLE DATA

Vehicle Type:	OP2E	Serial:	131484
Crash Type:	Enemy action	Engine Type:	R3350
Call Sign:	SOPHOMORE 50	1 Serial:	#
Year:	\$	2 Serial:	#

SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY

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CASE: 1062

=== CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS ===

20 March 1975

ON 27 FEBRUARY 1968 AN OP2E AIRCRAFT, (BUNO #131484), DEPARTED NAKHOM PHANOM RTAFB ON AN ARMED RECONNAISSANCE MISSION OVER LAOS WITH A CREW OF NINE, INCLUDING NAME AND ATN2 JOHN F. HARTZHEIM. THE AIRCRAFT WAS OVER ITS ASSIGNED TARGET WHEN A 37MM ANTI-AIRCRAFT ROUND STRUCK THE UNDERSIDE OF THE AIRCRAFT AND EXPLODED IN THE RADAR WELL. HARTZHEIM WAS STRUCK BY FRAGMENTS OF THE PROJECTILE AND BEGAN BLEEDING. THE BOMB BAY AND THE RADAR WELL CAUGHT FIRE, AND THE FLIGHT DECK AREA OF THE AIRCRAFT WAS COVERED WITH DENSE ACRID SMOKE, NAME ORDERED HIS CREW TO ABANDON THE AIRCRAFT.

THE CREWMEMBERS BEGAN BAILING OUT IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES (GC) XD 135 780. HARTZHEIM WAS ASSISTED TO THE AFTER-STATION OF THE AIRCRAFT WHERE HE COLLAPSED AND WAS PRESUMED TO BE DEAD. THE BOMBARDIER/THIRD PILOT WAS THE LAST KNOWN PERSON TO LEAVE THE AIRCRAFT. (HARTZHEIM WAS STILL ABOARD THE AIRCRAFT WHEN HE LEFT). HE STATED THAT HE BELIEVES THAT NAME BAILED OUT JUST PRIOR TO HIS OWN DEPARTURE FROM THE AIRCRAFT. A GEOGRAPHICAL PLOT OF THE POSITIONS OF THE RESCUE POINTS OF THE SURVIVORS INDICATES NAME MAY HAVE LANDED IN THE VICINITY OF A LAOTIAN VILLAGE. THE AIRCRAFT IMPACTED AT (GC) XD 116 889. (REF 1)

SUBSEQUENT SEARCH AND RESCUE EFFORTS SUCCESSFULLY RECOVERED SEVEN OF THE NINE CREW MEMBERS INVOLVED IN THE INCIDENT, LEAVING ONLY NAME AND ATN2 HARTZHEIM UNACCOUNTED FOR. (REF 2)

DURING THE EXISTENCE OF JCRC, THE HOSTILE THREAT IN THE AREA PRECLUDED ANY VISITS TO OR GROUND INSPECTIONS OF THE SITES INVOLVED IN THIS CASE. THESE INDIVIDUALS' NAMES AND IDENTIFYING DATA WERE TURNED OVER TO FOUR-PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM WITH A REQUEST FOR ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE. NO RESPONSE WAS FORTHCOMING. NAME AND ATN2 HARTZHEIM ARE CURRENTLY CARRIED IN THE PRESUMPTIVE STATUS OF DEAD, BODY NOT RECOVERED.

=== SUBSEQUENT INFORMATION ===

17 January 1985

SOURCE PROVIDED HEARSAY INFORMATION ON THE CRASH OF AN AMERICAN AIRCRAFT IN 1968 IN THE VICINITY OF PHOU SANIN MOUNTAIN, LAOS. THIS CRASH SITE PROBABLY CORRELATES TO REFNO 1062 INCIDENT. (REF 3)

7 January 1987

SOURCE PROVIDED IDENTIFICATION MEDIA DATA PERTAINING TO ATN2 HARTZHEIM. (REF 4)

CASE: 1062

16 March 1988

SOURCE STATES THAT ON 15 FEB 68, WHILE HIS UNIT WAS INFILTRATING THROUGH LAOS, A U.S. COLONEL ASSENDED UNDER A FULLY DEPLOYED PARACHUTE NEAR HIS UNIT AND WAS CAPTURED. THIS INFORMATION POSSIBLY CORRELATES TO NAME (REF 5)

8 April 1988

REPORT PROVIDED BIOGRAPHIC DATA CONCERNING "HARDSSESAM" J. F.. THIS INFORMATION CORRELATES TO PETTY OFFICER HARTZHEIM. (REF 6)

=== REFERENCES ===

17 January 1985

REFERENCES: <1> RPT , OBSERVATION SQUADRON 65, 6 MAR 68. <2> RPT CO, OBSERVATION SQUADRON 67, SER 016, 6 MAR 68. <3> REFCON 85-018. <4> REFCON 86-504, JCRC LSN BKK 180733Z DEC 86. <5> IIR 6 028 3060-68, DATED 12 AUG 1968 <6> AMEMBASSY MSG 300933Z MAR 88. <7> AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE, DETAILED REPORT OF INVESTIGATION; CASE 1062, 020836Z MAY 93. <8> CDR, JTF-FA//J2// 081802Z FEB 94.

=== NEGOTIATION ACTIONS ===

20 September 1989

A CASE NARRATIVE PERTAINING TO ALL INDIVIDUALS WAS PASSED BY JCRC TO THE VNOSMP DURING THE 28 - 30 AUGUST 1989 TECHNICAL MEETING IN HANOI.

8 December 1989

DURING THE 29 - 30 OCT 89 MEETING IN HANOI, GEN VESSEY PASSED A NARRATIVE ON THIS CASE TO VIETNAMESE FOREIGN MINISTER NGUYEN CO THACH.

DURING THE 1 - 3 NOV 89 MEETING IN VIENTIANE, LAOS, USDAS LAMBERTSON PASSED A NARRATIVE ON THIS CASE TO LPDR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

19 September 1990

DURING THE 1-2 FEB 90 CONSULTATIVE MEETING, THE JCRC PASSED MAPS ANNOTATED WITH 90 CRASH SITES LOCATED IN XIANGKHOANG, KHAMMOUAN AND SALAVAN PROVINCES. THE LAO ACCEPTED THE MAPS AND AGREED TO STUDY THEM. REFNO 1062 WAS ONE OF THE SITES INVOLVED.

CASE: 1062

24 May 1993

CASE NARRATIVE FOR CASE 1062 WAS PASSED TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE VIETNAMESE AND LAO GOVERNMENTS DURING THE 6-7 MAY 1993 POW/MIA TRILATERAL TECHNICAL MEETING IN HANOI.

=== ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS ===

20 March 1975

ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS: NAME , AND JOHN F. HARTZHEIM 1062-0-02.

=== JOINT INVESTIGATION, SURVEY OR EXCAVATION ===

12 July 1993

ON 23 AND 24 MAY 1993, A JOINT U.S./LAO INVESTIGATION/RECOVERY TEAM (IRT) INVESTIGATED THIS CASE IN THE VICINITY OF THE LAST KNOWN LOCATION, GRID COORDINATE (GC) XD125860, BOULAPHA DISTRICT, KHAMMOUAN PROVINCE. THE TEAM INTERVIEWED OFFICIALS AND VILLAGERS AT BAN NONG KOUNG, GC XD1008600 BAN VANG LOUANG, GC XD132861, BAN NAMLIN, GC XD150866, BAN NACHALING, GC XD175875, BAN CHALET GC XD160880, AND BAN KA TOK, GC XD110920. AT BAN NONG KOUNG AND BAN NAMLIN VILLAGERS RELATED STORIES WHICH APPEAR TO CORRELATE TO THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THIS CASE. VILLAGERS REFERRED THE TEAM TO BAN NACHALING, WHERE VILLAGERS REPORTEDLY HAD MORE KNOWLEDGE OF THE CASE. AT BAN NACHALING THE TEAM INTERVIEWED A VILLAGE CHIEF WHO IS REPORTEDLY A FIRST HAND WITNESS TO THE INCIDENT. THE WITNESS SAID HE HAD SEEN EIGHT MEN PARACHUTE FROM A AIRCRAFT, BUT ONE MAN FELL WITHOUT A PARACHUTE AND HELICOPTERS PICKED UP THE SURVIVORS. THE WITNESS AND HIS BROTHER REPORTEDLY FOUND THE BODY OF THE DEAD AMERICAN AMONG THE ROCKS NEAR THE FOOT OF PHA KAT MOUNTAIN AT GC XD199868. REPORTEDLY THE SOURCES'S BROTHER VISITED THE AREA TWO YEARS LATER AND SAW A SKELETON AT THE SITE. THE WITNESS LED THE TEAM TO THE AREA; A SURFACE SEARCH OF THE AREA WAS MADE, BUT NOTHING WAS FOUND. THE CRASH SITE OF REFNO 1062-0-02 WAS NOT VISITED, BUT WITNESSES SUGGEST IT IS NORTHEAST OF BAN NACHALING. (REF 7)

9 February 1994

ON 23 AND 24 MAY 93, A JOINT TEAM INVESTIGATED A CRASH SITE AT GRID XD0909. THE ITEMS RECOVERED ARE FROM AN F-4 AIRCRAFT. (REF 8)